

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the pending claims with the following listing of claims:

1-34. **(Cancelled)**

35. **(Currently Amended)** An implant for resurfacing at least a portion of an articulating surface of a bone, the implant comprising:

a body having a first side with ~~[[top]]~~ a top articular surface and an opposing second side with a bone apposition surface, the bone apposition surface being adapted to bias against a natural or resected articulating surface of a bone; and

means for securing a fastener to the second side of the body after the bone apposition surface is biased against the natural or resected articulating surface such that the fastener is rigidly fixed to the body and such that applying increased tension to the ~~fasten~~ fastener increases a force at which the bone apposition surface biases against the natural or resected articulating surface.

36. **(Currently Amended)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the means for securing a fastener comprises a blind socket formed on the bone apposition surface of the body.

37. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 36, wherein the socket is threaded.

38. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the means for securing a fastener comprises a stem outwardly projecting from the bone apposition surface of the body.

39. **(Currently Amended)** An implant as recited in claim 38, wherein the stem has a blind socket formed thereon.

40. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 38, wherein the stem has threads formed thereon.

41. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 38, wherein the stem has a central longitudinal axis and the stem is oriented so as to form an angle between the central longitudinal axis of the stem and the bone apposition surface of the body in a range between about 30° to about 80°.

42. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 38, wherein the stem has a length in a range between about 2 mm to about 6 mm.

43. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the body comprises:
a tray having the bone apposition surface; and
a bearing plate mounted on the tray, the bearing plate being comprised of a polymeric material and having the top articular surface.

44. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the implant comprises a femoral or tibial implant.

45. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the body comprises:
a lower bearing plate; and
an upper bearing plate having the top articular surface formed thereon, one of the lower bearing plate and upper bearing plate having a track formed thereon while the other has a key that slidably rides within the track.

46. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the body comprises:
a bearing plate having the top articular surface and an opposing bottom surface, a pocket being formed on the bottom surface of the bearing plate; and
an inlay of porous bone ingrowth material secured within the pocket.

47. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 46, wherein the means for securing the fastener comprises a stem outwardly projecting from the bottom surface of the bearing plate, the inlay encircling the stem.

48. **(Original)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the body comprises a first part and a second part that can be selectively connected together, each of the first part and the second part comprising a portion of the top articular surface and the bone apposition surface.

49. **(Currently Amended)** An implant system for resurfacing at least a portion of an articulating surface of a bone, the system comprising:

an implant having a top articular surface and an opposing bone apposition surface;

an elongated fastener configured to rigidly mount ~~selectively mountable~~ to the implant so as to outwardly project from the bone apposition surface; and

a tubular bone anchor adapted to encircle at least a portion of the fastener.

50. **(Currently Amended)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the implant further comprises a stem projecting from the bone apposition surface, the stem being ~~configured~~ threaded to mate with the fastener.

51. **(Currently Amended)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the implant has a socket formed on the bone apposition surface, the socket being ~~configured~~ threaded to mate with the fastener.

52. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the implant comprises:

a lower bearing plate; and

an upper bearing plate having the top articular surface formed thereon, one of the lower bearing plate and upper bearing plate having a track formed thereon while the other has a key that slidably rides within the track.

53. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the implant comprises:

a tray having the bone apposition surface; and

a bearing plate mounted on the tray, the bearing plate being comprised of a polymeric material and having the top articular surface.

54. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the implant comprises:

a bearing plate having the top articular surface and an opposing bottom surface, a pocket being formed on the bottom surface of the bearing plate; and
an inlay of porous bone ingrowth material secured within the pocket.

55. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the body comprises a first part and a second part that can be selectively connected together, each of the first part and the second part comprising a portion of the top articular surface and the bone apposition surface.

56. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the fastener comprises an elongated shaft having a length in a range between about 5 mm to about 15 mm.

57. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the fastener comprises an elongated shaft having an enlarged head integrally formed thereon.

58. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, further comprising an enlarged crown nut removably mountable to the fastener.

59. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the bone anchor comprises one or more threads or barbs formed on an exterior surface thereof.

60. **(Currently Amended)** [[A]] An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the fastener has at least one helical thread that engages with the implant and the bone anchor has at least one external helical thread, the helical thread of the bone anchor rotating in a direction opposite of the helical thread of the fastener.

61. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the bone anchor has an interior surface bounding a channel extending between a first end and an opposing second end, the first end terminating at a first end face, the channel comprising a first channel portion extending from the first end, a second channel portion extending from the second end, and a radially inwardly projecting shoulder disposed between the first channel portion and the second channel portion.

62. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 61, wherein the fastener comprises a shaft having an enlarged head integrally formed thereon, the head being biased against the shoulder of the bone anchor.

63. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 61, further comprising an enlarged crown nut removably mounted on the fastener and biased against the shoulder of the bone anchor.

64. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, further comprising a drive rod integrally formed with the fastener, a plurality of spaced apart annular breaking grooves being formed at the intersection between the fastener and the drive rod.

65-91. **(Cancelled)**

92. **(Currently Amended)** An implant system for resurfacing at least a portion of an articulating surface of a bone, the system comprising:

- an implant having a top articular surface and an opposing bone apposition surface;
- an elongated fastener having a proximal end and an opposing distal end, the distal end being ~~permanently or selectively~~ mounted to the implant by threaded engagement so that the fastener outwardly ~~project~~ projects from the bone apposition surface; and
- a nut removably mounted to the proximal end of the fastener.

93. **(Original)** An implant system as recited in claim 92, further comprising a bone anchor encircling at least a portion of the fastener.

94. **(New)** An implant as recited in claim 35, wherein the means for securing the fastener comprises a threaded connection disposed or formed on the body of the implant.

95. **(New)** An implant as recited in claim 43, wherein the tray further comprises a top surface opposite the bone apposition surface and the means for securing the fastener is configured so as to be inaccessible from the top surface of the tray.

96. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the fastener is configured to rigidly mount to the implant by threadedly engaging with the implant.

97. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the fastener has at least one helical thread that engages with the implant.

98. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 49, wherein the fastener has a proximal end and an opposing distal end, the distal end being mounted to the implant and the proximal end projecting away from the bone apposition surface of the implant, and wherein the implant system further comprises means for attaching a fastener driver to the proximal end of the fastener.

99. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 98, wherein the means for attaching a fastener driver comprises a blind socket formed in the proximal end of the fastener.

100. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 53, wherein the tray further comprises a top surface opposite the bone apposition surface and the means for securing the fastener is configured so as to be inaccessible from the top surface of the tray.

101. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 58, wherein the crown nut is rotatable relative to the bone anchor.

102. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 58, further comprising means for attaching an attachment tool to the crown nut.

103. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 102, wherein the means for attaching the attachment tool comprises a plurality of prongs formed on the crown nut.

104. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 92, further comprising means for attaching a fastener driver to the proximal end of the fastener.

105. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 104, wherein the means for attaching the fastener driver comprises a socket formed in the proximal end of the fastener.

106. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 92, further comprising means for attaching an attachment tool to the nut.

107. **(New)** An implant system as recited in claim 106, wherein the means for attaching the attachment tool comprises a plurality of prongs formed on the nut.